



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 9

20 July 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates, Jamie Wareham preaches and Vicki Matthews leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 6, 526, 558 and 591**

**Setting: Wilson**

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

The Baptism of Megan Alice Grassie is at 4.00pm

There is Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

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## **For your prayers this week:**

**The Church:** The Bishops meeting for the Lambeth Conference.  
Ignacio Soliba, Prime Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

We pray, and give thanks for, the ministry of Readers in the Church, and particularly for Martin Heath who (on Tuesday) celebrates the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his admission as Reader..

**The World:** Peace in Iraq, Afghanistan and Zimbabwe.

The healing of diplomatic relations with Iran.

All employed in the National Health Service as it celebrates 60 years.

**The Community and Parish:** Hannah Benoy and Michael Brown to be married in Durham Cathedral this Saturday (26<sup>th</sup>).

Megan Grassie to be baptised this afternoon.

The two couples married here yesterday: Richard and Wiebke Carr, and Matthew and Gemma Alexander.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Ray Angles, Monica Batt, Ellen Benoy, Mel Browne, John Burn, Marjorie Carlisle, Jennifer Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Ifagaani Desiderio, Jim Dibben, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Jocelyn Harewood, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Gladys Robertson, Elaine Robinson, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Anne Wightman, Maureen Williams and Sue Winterbotham.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Genesis 28.10–19a**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- <sup>10</sup> Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.  
<sup>11</sup> He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.  
<sup>12</sup> And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.  
<sup>13</sup> And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;  
<sup>14</sup> and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.  
<sup>15</sup> Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'  
<sup>16</sup> Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!'  
<sup>17</sup> And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'  
<sup>18</sup> So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.  
<sup>19</sup> He called that place Bethel.

**SECOND READING Romans 8.12–25**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- <sup>12</sup> Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh –  
<sup>13</sup> for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.  
<sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.  
<sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!'  
<sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,  
<sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the  
glory about to be revealed to us.  
19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God;  
20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one  
who subjected it, in hope  
21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the  
freedom of the glory of the children of God.  
22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now;  
23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan  
inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.  
24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for  
what is seen?  
25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

## **GOSPEL Matthew 13.24–30, 36–43**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

24 Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared  
to someone who sowed good seed in his field;  
25 but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat,  
and then went away.  
26 So when the plants came up and bore grain then the weeds appeared as well.  
27 And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good  
seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?"  
28 He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us  
to go and gather them?"  
29 But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with  
them.  
30 Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the  
reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the  
wheat into my barn."  
36 Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him,  
saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.'  
37 He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man;  
38 the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds  
are the children of the evil one,  
39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the  
reapers are angels.  
40 Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the  
age.  
41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of  
sin and all evildoers,  
42 and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and  
gnashing of teeth.  
43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone  
with ears listen!'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	21	July	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Worship Committee (in church)	7.30pm
Wed	23	July	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thu	24	July	Holy Communion	10.00am
			(Kids' Club does not meet during school holidays)	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	27	July	<b><u>TRINITY 10</u></b>	
			NO 8 am Holy Communion today	
			<b>Sung Eucharist</b> (crèche available)	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Canon Michael Carter)	
			followed by a Bring-&Buy Sale	
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

## NOTICES

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE:** If you wish to have a name added to the Book of Remembrance please see Violet Allen-Smith.

**HOLIDAY CLUB:** This will be held for a week beginning on Monday, 4 August. The sessions are held in the mornings from 9.30 am to 12 noon. If you are able to help at one or more of the sessions please get in touch with Jane Talbot as soon as possible 01923 226276 or [halfsentence@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:halfsentence@yahoo.co.uk)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** If you are interested in helping with the Sunday School will you please see one of the churchwardens.

**NEXT BIBLE STUDY** will be on 6<sup>th</sup> August at 8 pm (Exodus 18.1)

**FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE AUGUST SWORD** is MIDDAY today Sunday, 20 July. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to [DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com](mailto:DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com).

**WOODEN CHAIRS:** The church has a number of stackable wooden chairs (infant school size). If anyone uses them for church activities will they please see Sylvia Moring. If anyone would like to have a few of these chairs for their own use will they also see Sylvia Moring.

**PARISH LUNCH:** The Social Committee anticipate that the parish lunch on 14 September will be one of the largest events of its kind that we have had at St Michael's. We would like help with all kinds of practical things from re-arranging the furniture, setting up, washing up, providing a dish of food. There is a list for people to sign on the signing-up table; please look at it and see if you can help.

**NEXT PARISH WALK** will be on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Vicki and Martin Matthews have kindly agreed to organise it.